8TH MPBOARD S.SCIENCE PAPER

☑ Q.1 Why did the sepoys refuse to use the new cartridges in 1857?

The British introduced a new Enfield rifle for Indian soldiers in 1857.
To load this rifle, the cartridge had to be bitten with the mouth.
It was believed that the cartridges were greased with the fat of cow and pig.
The cow is sacred for Hindus and the pig is considered impure by Muslims.
Because of this, the religious feelings of both communities were hurt.
The sepoys felt that the British were trying to destroy their religion and customs.
They also felt insulted and disrespected by the British officers.
This created anger and mistrust among the Indian soldiers.
Many sepoys discussed this issue among themselves in the army camps.
They believed that their traditions were not safe under British rule.
As a result, the soldiers refused to use the new cartridges.
This incident became the immediate cause of the Revolt of 1857.
Thus, the cartridge issue played a very important role in starting the revolt.

☑ Q.2 What was Wood's Despatch of 1854?

Wood's Despatch was an important education policy of the British government.
It was sent to the Governor-General of India in the year 1854.
Its main aim was to spread modern education in India.
It suggested the establishment of schools and colleges in different parts of the country.
It also recommended proper training for teachers.
English education was given importance under this policy.
Modern subjects such as science, mathematics and geography were promoted.
It supported education for both boys and girls.
It also suggested the setting up of universities in major cities.
The Despatch tried to create a well-organised education system in India.
It helped in improving the quality of education.
Therefore, Wood's Despatch is called the foundation of modern education in India.

☑ Q.3 Describe the role of Mahatma Gandhi in the Quit India Movement.

The Quit India Movement was launched in the year 1942.
Mahatma Gandhi was the main leader of this movement.
He demanded that the British should leave India immediately

He gave the powerful slogan "Do or Die" to inspire the people.
He asked people to remain peaceful and follow non-violence.
Students, workers and common people took part in the movement.
Gandhi encouraged people to organise protests and meetings.
The movement spread to many parts of the country.
The British government arrested many leaders, including Gandhi.
Even after arrests, people continued their struggle.
The movement created a strong feeling of unity among Indians.
It showed the determination of Indians to become free.
Thus, Mahatma Gandhi played a guiding and inspiring role in the Quit India Movement.

☑ Q.4 What was the Birsa Munda movement? Why did it worry the British?

Birsa Munda was a famous tribal leader of the Munda community.
He started a movement in the tribal areas of present-day Jharkhand.
The main aim of the movement was to protect tribal land and forests.
Tribal people were being exploited by landlords and moneylenders.
The British forest laws also harmed the tribal way of life.
Birsa Munda asked the tribal people to unite against injustice.
He wanted to restore the traditional rights of the tribal communities.
Many tribal people supported and followed him.
The movement became strong and well organised.
It challenged the authority of the British government.
The British feared that the movement could spread to other areas.
Therefore, the Birsa Munda movement worried the British rulers.

☑ Q.5 What were the main demands of the Moderate leaders of the Indian National Congress?

The Moderate leaders were the early leaders of the Indian National Congress.
They believed in peaceful and constitutional methods.
They demanded more Indians in government services and administration.
They wanted fair opportunities for Indians in civil services.
They demanded freedom of speech and freedom of the press.
They asked for reduction of heavy land revenue and taxes.
They also demanded better facilities for education and welfare.
The Moderates wanted self-government within the British Empire.
They believed that reforms could be achieved through discussions and petitions.
They respected law and order.
They tried to convince the British government through reason and logic.
Thus, the main aim of the Moderate leaders was to bring reforms peacefully.

✅ Q.6 Who was James Mill? How did he divide Indian history?

James Mill was a British historian and writer.
He wrote a famous book called A History of British India.
He tried to explain the history of India to British people.
James Mill divided Indian history into three main periods.
The first period was called the Hindu period.
The second period was called the Muslim period.
The third period was called the British period.
He made this division mainly on the basis of religion of the rulers.
He believed that society and culture were shaped by religion.
However, this method of division was not fully correct.
Indian history is very complex and cannot be explained only by religion.
Many historians later criticised his classification.
Thus, James Mill divided Indian history into three religious periods.

✅ Q.7 What were the main causes of the Revolt of 1857?

The Revolt of 1857 took place because of many important reasons.
One major cause was the political policy of the British.
Many Indian rulers lost their kingdoms and power.
Another cause was economic exploitation of peasants and workers.
Heavy taxes were imposed on farmers.
Indian soldiers were treated badly in the army.
They were paid less than British soldiers.
Religious interference by the British created fear among people.
Social and religious customs were not respected.
The cartridge issue increased anger among the soldiers.
People were unhappy with British rule in every field.
Thus, political, economic, military and religious causes together led to the Revolt of 1857.

✅ Q.8 Why is land considered a limited resource?

Land is one of the most important natural resources.

Human life depends on land for food, shelter and development.
The total area of land on the earth is fixed.
It cannot be increased according to our needs.
With increase in population, the demand for land is also increasing.
Land is needed for agriculture and food production.
It is also needed for houses, roads and industries.
More land is used for cities and settlements.
Excessive use of land causes land degradation.
Deforestation also reduces the quality of land.
Land becomes unproductive due to overuse.
Therefore, land is a limited and very valuable resource.

✅ Q.9 What is population change? Name its factors.

Population change means the increase or decrease in the number of people living in a place.
It shows how the size of population changes over time.
Population change affects food supply, housing and employment.
The first important factor is birth rate.
When more children are born, population increases.
The second factor is death rate.
When the number of deaths increases, population decreases.
The third factor is migration.
Migration means movement of people from one place to another.
People migrate for jobs, education and better facilities.
Migration increases population in one place and decreases it in another.
Thus, population change depends on birth rate, death rate and migration.

✅ Q.10 Distinguish between agro-based and mineral-based industries.

Industries are classified on the basis of the raw materials they use.
Agro-based industries depend on agricultural products.
They use raw materials such as cotton, sugarcane, jute and wheat.
Examples of agro-based industries are sugar industry and cotton textile industry.
These industries are usually located near farming areas.
Mineral-based industries use minerals as their main raw material.
They depend on iron ore, coal and limestone.

Examples of mineral-based industries are iron and steel industry and cement industry.
These industries are mostly set up near mining areas.
Agro-based industries support farmers and rural economy.
Mineral-based industries support heavy industries and infrastructure.
Thus, both industries differ mainly in the type of raw materials used

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☑ Q.11 What are private sector and joint sector industries?

Industries can be classified on the basis of ownership.
Private sector industries are owned and managed by individuals or private companies.
The main objective of private sector industries is to earn profit.
Examples of private sector industries include private factories and companies.
These industries take decisions independently.
They invest their own money in production.
Private sector industries help in economic growth.
Joint sector industries are owned jointly by the government and private persons.
Both the government and private partners share investment.
They also share management and responsibilities.
The aim of joint sector industries is to earn profit as well as serve public interest.
They help in balanced regional development.
Thus, private sector and joint sector industries mainly differ in ownership and objectives.

☑ Q.12 What is mixed farming?

Mixed farming is a system of agriculture in which crops and animals are raised together.
In this type of farming, farmers grow crops and also rear animals.
Animals such as cows, buffaloes and poultry are commonly kept.
This system provides more than one source of income to farmers.
If crop production fails, income from animals supports the farmer.
Mixed farming helps in better use of land and labour.
Animal waste is used as natural manure for crops.
This improves soil fertility.
It also increases food production.
Mixed farming reduces financial risk.
It supports sustainable agriculture.
Therefore, mixed farming is a useful and safe method of farming.

☑ Q.13 What is a population pyramid? What does it show?

A population pyramid is a graphical representation of population.
It shows the age and sex composition of a population.
The population is divided into different age groups.
It shows the number of males and females in each age group.
It helps us understand whether the population is young or old.
It shows the number of children, adults and elderly people.
It helps in planning schools, hospitals and jobs.
Government uses it for future planning.
It also shows the growth trend of population.
A wide base shows high birth rate.
Thus, a population pyramid helps us understand population structure and growth.

☑ Q.14 What is land use? Name different types of land use.

Land use means the way in which people use land for different purposes.
Land is an important natural resource for human life.
A large part of land is used for agriculture and farming.
Land is also used for houses and settlements.
Many areas of land are used for industries and factories.
Land is required for roads, railways and transport.
Some land is used for forests and wildlife protection.
Land is also used for grazing animals.
Different types of land use depend on climate and soil.
They also depend on population and technology.
Thus, land use shows how land resources are utilised by people.

☑ Q.15 What is resource conservation? Why is it necessary?

Resource conservation means the careful and wise use of natural resources.
Natural resources are limited in nature.
If we use them carelessly, they can be exhausted.
Overuse of resources causes environmental problems.
It leads to pollution and land degradation.
Conservation helps in protecting forests and water resources.
It maintains ecological balance.
It helps in sustainable development.
It ensures availability of resources for future generations.
It also improves the quality of human life.
Therefore, resource conservation is very necessary for our future.

☑ Q.16 Why does a democratic country need a Constitution?

A Constitution is the basic law of a country.
It explains how the government is formed and how it works.
It defines the powers of the legislature, executive and judiciary.
It clearly limits the powers of the government.
It protects the rights of the citizens.
It helps to maintain equality among all people.
It ensures justice, liberty and dignity to every citizen.
It prevents misuse of power by the authorities.
It helps in solving conflicts between different organs of government.
It provides rules for making laws.
It also protects minorities.
Therefore, a democratic country needs a Constitution to run the country fairly.

☑ Q.17 What are Fundamental Rights?

Fundamental Rights are the basic rights given to all citizens.
They are written in the Indian Constitution.
These rights protect the freedom of people.
They ensure equality before law.
They protect citizens from discrimination.
They help people to live with dignity.
They allow people to express their views freely.
They protect people against exploitation.
They give freedom of religion.
They also protect personal liberty.
Citizens can go to court if their rights are violated.
Thus, Fundamental Rights are essential for a democratic society.

☑ Q.18 What is Secularism? Why is it important for India?

Secularism means that the state has no official religion.
The government does not favour any religion.
All religions are treated equally by the state.
People are free to follow, practise and spread any religion.
India is a country of many religions.
Different communities live together in India.

Secularism protects religious minorities.
It prevents discrimination on the basis of religion.
It promotes harmony and peaceful living.
It strengthens national unity.
It helps people respect each other's beliefs.
Therefore, secularism is very important for India.

☑ Q.19 What are the main functions of the Parliament?

The Parliament is the highest law-making body of India.
Its main function is to make laws for the country.
It discusses important national issues.
It controls the working of the government.
Members ask questions to ministers.
It passes the national budget.
It approves government spending.
It represents the people of the country.
It helps in changing old laws when needed.
It also discusses policies of the government.
It keeps a check on misuse of power.
Thus, Parliament plays an important role in democracy.

☑ Q.20 How is a law made in the Parliament?

The process of making a law starts with a Bill.
A Bill is introduced in either House of Parliament.
The Bill is discussed in detail by the members.
Members give suggestions and raise objections.
The Bill is then passed in one House.
After that, it is sent to the other House.
The second House also discusses and passes the Bill.
If both Houses agree, the Bill is sent to the President.
The President gives approval to the Bill.
After approval, the Bill becomes a law.
This process is followed for every important law.
Thus, a law is made through discussion and approval in Parliament.

Q.21 What is Article 17 of the Indian Constitution?

Article 17 of the Indian Constitution abolishes untouchability.

It clearly says that untouchability is a crime.

No person can be treated badly on the basis of caste.
It protects the dignity and self-respect of every individual.
It allows everyone to use public places freely.
It gives equal access to schools, temples and public facilities.
It promotes social equality in society.
It removes discrimination and injustice.
The government can punish people who practise untouchability.
This Article helps weaker sections of society.
It supports the idea of social justice.
Thus, Article 17 plays a very important role in creating an equal society.

✅ Q.22 Why do we need an independent judiciary?

An independent judiciary means courts work without pressure.
Judges are free to give fair decisions.
The judiciary protects the Constitution of the country.
It protects the Fundamental Rights of citizens.
It checks misuse of power by the government.
It helps in solving disputes peacefully.
It ensures justice to rich and poor equally.
It keeps control over the executive and legislature.
It builds public trust in the legal system.
It protects democracy in the country.
It maintains the rule of law.
Therefore, an independent judiciary is very important for a democratic country.

✅ Q.23 What is the role of a Public Prosecutor?

A Public Prosecutor represents the government in court.
He presents the case on behalf of the state.
He studies the case file carefully.

He presents evidence before the judge.
He questions the witnesses in court.
He supports the investigation done by the police.
He helps the court in understanding the facts.
He works for justice, not for personal interest.
He helps in punishing the guilty.
He also protects public interest.
Thus, the Public Prosecutor plays an important role in the justice system.

✅ Q.24 What is Universal Adult Franchise?

Universal Adult Franchise means every adult citizen has the right to vote.
In India, every citizen above 18 years can vote.
There is no discrimination on the basis of caste, religion or gender.
All votes have equal value.
It gives people the power to choose their representatives.
It allows common people to take part in government.
It strengthens democracy.
It gives equal political rights to everyone.
It helps people express their opinion through voting.
It makes the government responsible to the people.
Thus, Universal Adult Franchise is the foundation of democracy.

✅ Q.25 What is Public Interest Litigation (PIL)?

Public Interest Litigation is a case filed for public welfare.
It is filed to protect the rights of a group of people.
Any citizen can file a PIL in court.
It is very helpful for poor and needy people.
It helps people who cannot approach courts easily.
It protects public resources and environment.

It brings attention to social problems.
It makes the government accountable.
It supports justice and equality.
It strengthens the judicial system.
Thus, PIL plays an important role in protecting public interest.

✅ Q.26 What is the role of the police in the criminal justice system?

The police play a very important role in the criminal justice system.

Their first duty is to register a First Information Report (FIR).

They start investigation after receiving a complaint.

They visit the place of crime and collect evidence.

They question witnesses and record their statements.

They search for the accused person.

They arrest the accused if necessary.

They prepare the case file and report.

They produce the accused before the court.

They help the court by providing facts and evidence.

They also help in maintaining law and order.

Thus, the police help in starting and supporting the process of justice.

✅ Q.27 Distinguish between criminal law and civil law.

Criminal law deals with crimes committed against society.

Examples of crimes are theft, murder and cheating.

In criminal cases, the government files the case in court.

The aim is to punish the guilty person.

Punishment may include fine or imprisonment.

Civil law deals with disputes between individuals.

Examples are property disputes, divorce and contract disputes.

In civil cases, one person files a case against another person.

The aim is to solve disputes and give compensation.

Civil law does not involve punishment like jail in most cases.

Thus, criminal law and civil law differ in nature and purpose.

✅ Q.28 What is marginalisation?

Marginalisation means a situation in which some groups are kept away from the main development of society.

Such groups do not get equal opportunities.

They face problems in education and employment.

They often live in poor conditions.

They are treated unfairly in many situations.

They do not get proper access to health and basic facilities.

Their voices are not heard in decision making.

They remain socially and economically weak.

Marginalised people suffer from discrimination and neglect.

They need special support from the government.

Special programmes are started for their development.

Thus, marginalisation creates inequality in society.

✅ Q.29 What is ghettoisation?

Ghettoisation means when people of one community live together in a separate area.

It happens mainly because of fear, insecurity or discrimination.

People feel safer when they live only with their own community.

They avoid mixing with other communities.

This reduces social interaction among different groups.

It creates social distance and misunderstanding.

Children also grow up in a limited social environment.

It increases division in society.

It weakens the feeling of unity.

It affects social harmony and peace.

Ghettoisation is harmful for a diverse country like India.

Thus, ghettoisation creates separation and weakens social unity.

✅ Extra Q.1 What was the Doctrine of Lapse?

The Doctrine of Lapse was a policy introduced by the British government.
It was mainly used by Lord Dalhousie.
According to this policy, if an Indian ruler died without a natural male heir, his kingdom was taken by the British.
The adopted son was not accepted as a legal heir.
Many Indian rulers lost their states because of this policy.

It was used to expand British control in India.
It created fear among Indian kings and rulers.
This policy was unfair to Indian traditions.
It disrespected Indian customs of adoption.
People became angry with British rule.
It increased political dissatisfaction.
This policy became one of the causes of the Revolt of 1857.

☑ Extra Q.2 What was the Subsidiary Alliance?

The Subsidiary Alliance was introduced by Lord Wellesley.
It was a political system used by the British.
Under this system, Indian rulers had to keep British soldiers in their states.
The rulers had to pay for the maintenance of the British army.
They were not allowed to keep independent foreign relations.
They could not employ any European officer without British permission.
A British Resident was appointed in their court.
The rulers slowly lost their independence.
The British gained full political control over the states.
This system helped the British expand their empire peacefully.
Indian rulers became weak and dependent.
Thus, the Subsidiary Alliance was a tool of British expansion.

☑ Extra Q.3 What is human resource?

Human resource refers to the people who contribute to the development of a country.
It includes the working population of a country.
People are important because they produce goods and services.
Human resource also includes knowledge, skills and abilities.
Education plays an important role in developing human resources.
Health is also necessary for efficient human resources.
Skilled workers help in economic growth.
Human resource converts natural resources into useful products.
A country with educated people develops faster.
Training improves the quality of human resource.

Therefore, people are the greatest asset of a nation.
Thus, human resource is very important for development.

☑ Extra Q.4 Draw and explain a soil profile.

A soil profile shows the different layers of soil.
It is a vertical section of soil from the surface downwards.
The top layer is called topsoil.
Topsoil contains humus and is very fertile.
It supports the growth of plants.
Below the topsoil is the subsoil.
It contains more minerals and less humus.
The third layer is called parent rock or weathered rock.
It is formed from broken rocks.
The last layer is solid bedrock.
Soil profile helps us understand soil formation.
It is useful for agriculture and land management.

☑ Extra Q.5 What is an FIR?

FIR means First Information Report.
It is the first official record of a crime.
It is written by the police.
It is registered when information about a crime is received.
It includes details such as time and place of crime.
It also contains the name of the complainant.
It describes what happened during the crime.
It starts the process of investigation.
Without FIR, proper investigation cannot begin.
It protects the rights of the victim.
It helps the court during trial.
Thus, FIR is very important in the criminal justice system.

☑ Extra Q.6 What is separation of powers?

Separation of powers means dividing the powers of government.
It divides power among three organs of government.
The Legislature makes laws.
The Executive implements laws.
The Judiciary interprets laws.
No organ should control all powers.
This system prevents misuse of power.
It maintains balance among the organs.
It protects democracy.
It helps in proper functioning of government.
It ensures independence of judiciary.
Thus, separation of powers is essential for a democratic system.

☑ Extra Q.7 What is the Supreme Court?

The Supreme Court is the highest court of India.
It is located in New Delhi.
It protects the Constitution of India.
It protects the Fundamental Rights of citizens.
It hears important cases from all over the country.
It settles disputes between states and the central government.
It checks whether laws follow the Constitution.
It gives final judgement in legal matters.
It ensures justice to the people.
It maintains rule of law.
It plays a very important role in democracy.
Thus, the Supreme Court is the guardian of the Constitution.